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# AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

LEGAL, ECONOMIC, AND ORGANIZATION INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.  
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## ARIZONA CITRUS GROWERS REPORT INCREASED BUSINESS

An increase in membership of approximately 21 per cent is reported by the Arizona Citrus Growers, Phoenix, Ariz. Last year 81 growers used the packing house service of the association and this year the number using the service is 96.

Approximately 1,500 separate Christmas boxes were packed by the association for the holiday trade. These boxes were filled with oranges and grapefruit that would be an advertisement for the Salt River Valley.

Up to Christmas 161 car loads of fruit had been shipped, compared with 129 cars on the same date last year. Total carlot shipments in 1924-25 amounted to 186. Shipments made in less than car loads brought the total shipments for the season to approximately 250 car loads. It is expected that the 1925-26 shipments of the association will be the equivalent of 350 car loads.

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## ASSOCIATION MANAGER SERVES TWENTY CONSECUTIVE YEARS

A record of twenty years continuous service is held by the general manager of the Ozark Fruit Growers' Association, Monett, Mo., who was recently named as general manager and sales agent for the twenty-first year.

The Ozark Fruit Growers' Association, which began functioning in 1904, is a federation of more than thirty local units. It operates chiefly in the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Tennessee, and handles mainly strawberries and grapes, with lesser quantities of vegetables and other kinds of fruit. Its business for the first year was approximately \$250,000, and in the past season it was reported to be more than ten times that sum.

At the recent annual meeting it was decided to build a permanent home for the association at Monett, Mo. It is expected that this will be ready in time to handle the strawberry crop this spring.

Federal shipping-point inspection was taken advantage of in 1925 for the first time. It is believed that this work will be greatly expanded during the present season.

The Government film "Why strawberries grow whiskers" was shown at the annual meeting.

CLEVELAND MILK ASSOCIATION REPORTS INCREASED MEMBERSHIP

During 1925 the Ohio Farmers' Cooperative Milk Association, Cleveland, handled milk with a sales value of \$5,320,000. Its membership increased by 249 and is now approximately 4,000. More than 104,900 samples of milk were taken for tests for butterfat. Checks to the number of 49,000 were issued, and approximately \$290,000 was paid for trucking charges.

The association was originally organized about six years ago. It was reorganized in 1923 and re-incorporated under the Ohio cooperative act in 1924. A new plant is being equipped with modern machinery for handling milk.

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NINE YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT BY TWIN CITY ASSOCIATION

Figures showing the growth of the Twin City Milk Producers' Association, St. Paul, Minn., have been made available. These show that sales have increased nearly threefold since the close of 1916, the first full year that the plants of the association were operated. The figures are given below:

Year	Total sales		Butter sold	Cheese sold
ending	Amount	Index		
Dec. 31			(pounds)	(pounds)
1917 <sup>/a</sup>	\$1,194,672	57	- - - -	- - - -
1918	2,103,183	100	168,557	951,548
1919	3,113,408	143	371,128	1,734,296
1920	3,410,943	162	743,024	664,710
1921	3,796,807	181	1,705,593	1,260,749
1922	4,313,275	205	1,868,334	811,860
1923	6,568,509	312	2,681,081	1,072,842
1924	6,830,885	325	4,207,333	1,667,954
1925	<sup>/b</sup> 8,100,000	335	2,709,662	1,834,683

<sup>/a</sup> Association began operating April 1.

<sup>/b</sup> December total estimated.

In a recent letter from the management of the enterprise it was stated that the first organization meeting for creating the association was held in September of 1916, that the articles of incorporation are dated January 2, 1917, and that the organization began handling milk and cream April 1, 1917.

An article giving detailed information regarding the activities of the association during 1925 will be found in Agricultural Cooperation for January 18, 1926, p. 27.

NEW NAME PROPOSED FOR MINNESOTA CREAMERIES

A change of name is contemplated by the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, Inc., St. Paul, the board of directors having voted to ask the stockholders to make the name the "Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc." as a means of identification with the brand of butter being put upon the market. Another reason for the change is that some of the creameries are in North Dakota and Wisconsin and the present name seems not to include such members.

Plans are being made for manufacturing surplus buttermilk into powder and two different propositions are presented. One is for the erection of separate plants at points where 10 or 15 creameries could deliver approximately 6,000,000 pounds of buttermilk a year, and the second proposition is to install dryers in individual creameries. It is believed the second plan is adaptable to the largest number of creameries. In either case the equipment would be paid for out of the earnings after allowing the farmers a substantial sum for the buttermilk.

The present month the association begins the redemption of its certificates of indebtedness. The first of these certificates were issued in February, 1924, when the association began marketing butter. They represent a deduction of not more than one cent a pound on butter handled. This sum is of the nature of a loan to the association for two years to create a revolving fund for financing marketing operations. These certificates are issued monthly, run for two years and bear 6 per cent interest. On October 1, 1925, the association had outstanding on such certificates the sum of \$353,460. Prompt payment of interest and principal when due is promised upon presentation of coupons or certificates.

It is expected that the machinery and jobbing department will eventually finance itself from its own capital which is being accumulated from earnings. Refunds to patrons from the earnings of this department are shown below:

From Jan. 1, 1923 to Aug. 31, 1923, .....	\$39,462
From Sept. 1, 1923 to Aug. 31, 1924, .....	67,799
From Sept. 1, 1924 to Aug. 31, 1925, .....	110,309

As a measure to aid in improvement of quality, the supply department has been conducting a contest for the sale of cream cooling tanks. This contest has resulted in the sale of 1,455 tanks. The winner of the first prize sold 126 tanks and received therefor \$25 in special recognition.

The new home of the association, being erected in Minneapolis, is nearing completion. It promises to afford many facilities for efficient handling of the business. The building has two stories and basement with loading platforms running full width of the building on both sides. Railroad tracks afford space for 24 cars at a time. The first floor will contain the supply department's display room and the butter sales department. Offices, laboratories and the print room will be on the second floor. Plans for refrigeration are very complete and it is expected that the equipment of the new plant will reduce handling expenses to the minimum.



MAINE EGGS SOLD DIRECT TO CONSUMERS

"Pine Tree Brand" is the quality label under which the Maine Poultry Producers' Association, Portland, is marketing eggs for its members. The association was incorporated in 1924 and began operations February 2, 1925, as a marketing agency for about 470 members. As the business year closed October 1, the first annual report covers but eight months. During that time 458,308 dozen eggs were handled, for which the members received \$183,086. Expenses for the period came to \$20,708, including office expenses, selling, candling and grading, and transportation.

Since the beginning of the new fiscal year the association has been working to build up a retail trade for carton eggs, and is now operating two retail sales routes in the city of Portland, one route in Portsmouth, N. H., and two in Lynn, Mass. The good quality 24-oz. eggs are sold under the "Pine Tree Brand" and eggs of smaller size are sold as "Pine Tree Juniors." The manager states that "quite a large part of our product" is now sold direct to the consumer in cartons. He further says: "We are watching these very carefully and if they promise success in as large a measure as seems probable, we shall add other retail routes."

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PACIFIC EGG AGENCY SAYS GROWTH IS STEADY AND SOUND

Growth which is "steady, gradual and sound" is reported by the Pacific Egg Producers, Inc., New York City, a selling agency for three large cooperative poultry associations on the Pacific Coast. The sales agency was organized in March of 1922, and incorporated under the laws of New York State the following year. It is now handling about 1,500 cars of eggs annually, or about 30 cars a week, compared with an average of less than 20 cars per week in 1924. The association, "PEP," it is reported now supplies to New York City about 8 per cent of receipts of all kinds of eggs from all sources. Its sales comprise about 60 per cent of New York's white egg business, and about 80 per cent of all receipts from the Pacific Coast.

Besides the New York markets, the association is developing outlets for eggs in Boston, Springfield, New Haven, Syracuse, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, Omaha, Minneapolis, and Florida points.

Special attention is given to grading and standardization. Only one grade is packed, that being the finest. These are put up in three sizes, large, medium, and pullets. The larger size is also graded according to degree of whiteness. Many of the eggs are processed by using a mineral oil to prevent evaporation. All eggs are infertile and come from flocks which are provided with a clean place, good feed and fresh water. Eggs are sold under the "Sunrise" brand.

COUNTY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA ACTIVE

The annual report of the West Virginia Cooperative Livestock Shippers' Association, Morgantown, W. Va., shows that the association handled 358 decks of livestock for 2,618 shippers during 1925. The livestock consisted of 15,602 lambs, 2,618 cattle, and 1,125 calves. Shipments were made to the terminal markets at Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Jersey City and Lancaster, Pa. Gross sales were \$501,587 and there was returned to the producers \$460,427, or 92 per cent of the sales. The average expense per hundredweight for all shipments, not including shrinkage nor lambs sold locally, was \$1.13 for lambs, \$.74 for cattle and \$.97 for calves.

The state association is the selling agency for seventeen county organizations the first of which was formed in 1922. Fourteen county associations functioning in 1924, representing 1,874 shippers, handled 18,895 animals as follows: sheep, 13,034; cattle, 5,201; calves, 660.

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LIVESTOCK TERMINAL MARKET SALES AGENCY REPORTS

The annual statement of the Farmers' Union Live Stock Commission, Sioux City, Iowa, for the year ending December 31, 1925, gives the total number of cars of livestock handled as 8,632 compared with 9,243 for the preceding year, owing to decreased receipts at the stock yards. Of the 8,632 cars, 8,047 represented cars sold, and 585, cars bought. The entire lot was made up of 6,988 cars of hogs, 1,566 cars of cattle and 78 cars of sheep. The value of the livestock handled during the year is given as \$16,619,209, compared with \$12,073,923 for 1924.

A refund to the patrons of 30 per cent of the commission paid during 1925 is announced.

Tabulated below are data given regarding number of cars handled, earnings, and per cent of commissions refunded each year beginning with 1919:

Year :	Cars :	Earnings :	Per cent of
:	handled :	:	commissions refunded
1919 :	1,513 :	\$2,955 :	16
1920 :	1,749 :	8,463 :	30
1921 :	2,352 :	19,090 :	40
1922 :	4,088 :	29,337 :	45
1923 :	6,015 :	51,265 :	50
1924 :	9,243 :	79,750 :	40
1925 :	8,632 :	<sup>/a</sup> 30,136 :	30

<sup>/a</sup> Owing to a reduction of about 35 per cent in commission rates for 1925 it is estimated that with the reported volume of business \$47,434 additional was added to the shippers.

UNIFORM LIVESTOCK MARKETING AGREEMENT IN IOWA

A uniform membership agreement is being submitted to the livestock shipping associations of Iowa by the Iowa Cooperative Live Stock Shippers, Des Moines, the State organization. This agreement provides that the signing member shall list with the association all livestock produced or acquired by him except that butchered locally, stocker and feeder animals sold locally, and animals sold for breeding purposes. The association agrees to engage a suitable manager, to find market outlets, to attend to the shipping of stock, and to collect claims and disburse receipts. A member failing to deliver stock listed agrees to pay the freight charges on unused space if, because of his failure, a car is forwarded with less than the minimum of weight for livestock. In case a member fails to list stock he is subject to liquidated damages of 25 cents per hundred pounds. The agreement may be terminated at the close of any year by either party giving notice to the other between December 1 and 26.

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LIVESTOCK MOVES TO ST. LOUIS MARKET BY TRUCK

Steady increase in the number of animals delivered by truck on the St. Louis livestock market is reported by the Producers' Commission Association. With the old-fashioned farm wagons, 15 or 20 miles was usually the limit from which stock was trucked in, and 15 or 20 wagons in one day was a fact to be commented upon. Now, with the hard surfaced roads, great fleets of trucks bring in stock from points 50 to 100 miles distant.

Receipts of livestock on the market by truck reached a total of 81,436 in 1922, including cattle, hogs and sheep. In 1924 there were 130,313 head. The 1925 figures are not yet complete but the receipts of the first ten months were far beyond the total for 1924.

Formerly the truck-in business was considered unprofitable and unimportant and provisions for handling were very limited. The Producers' Commission Association has recognized its importance and maintains a separate department for handling this line of business. Prompt attention is given to the handling and selling of the animals delivered by truck. That this service is appreciated is shown by the receipts for the several years, as follows: 1922, 9,900 head; 1923, 15,633; 1924, 26,572; 1925, first ten months, 33,110.

While the hard roads have been a big factor in this increased business, the manager of the Producers' Commission Association believes that the service they are rendering to the producers is the next most important factor in the rapid development of the delivery of stock by trucks, and they believe a system by which a grower can load his stock in the early morning and have it sold before noon is bound to grow in popularity.



COOPERATIVE LIVESTOCK MARKETING IN OHIO

Since the Ohio Livestock Cooperative Association began functioning in the early part of 1921, the county associations affiliated with the State organization have shipped 43,460 decks of livestock containing 3,418,676 animals, which have sold for \$57,646,593. The banner year as regards number of shipments was 1923, when 834,819 animals were marketed; total sales for that year, however, were not quite equal to those for the preceding year when they were in excess of \$13,500,000.

The figures showing the activities for the several years are given as follows:

Year	No. of shippers	No. of decks	No. of head	Index	Market sales	Index
1921/a	32,141	5,406	417,284	54	\$6,279,539	46
1922	83,599	9,868	776,987	100	13,583,492	100
1923	34,421	10,566	834,819	107	12,723,256	94
1924	77,930	9,429	753,359	97	11,563,233	85
1925	71,543	8,191	636,227	82	13,497,073	99
Total		43,460	3,418,676		57,646,593	

/a Ten months.

The 1925 shipments included 452,450 hogs, 119,260 sheep, 48,358 calves, and 16,159 cattle. The average total expense of marketing per hundred weight was 59 cents. Losses covered by insurance were \$25,228 for the year.

Nineteen of the 37 county associations reporting for December of 1925, made most of their shipments to the Cleveland livestock market, nine shipped principally to the Pittsburgh market, four to the Cincinnati market, four to the Buffalo market, and one to the Newark, N. J. market.

Of the county associations, the one in Fayette County made the best showing. Its shipments amounted to 1,210 decks containing 80,656 animals.

Fifty counties are organized to market livestock on a county basis. During the year, district, county, and local meetings were held by representatives of the State coordinating association. In 12 counties the management was strengthened by combining the work of livestock shipping with other commercial activities under a service manager.

In an effort to reduce losses in connection with the marketing of livestock the Ohio Livestock Loss Prevention Association was organized to correlate the activities of all the agencies interested in this work.

The Ohio Livestock Association in cooperation with the Indiana Farm Bureau was instrumental in establishing the Producers' Cooperative Commission Association which began operating upon the Cincinnati livestock market February 10, 1925, and is prepared to return to those who consigned livestock to it, 15 per cent of the commissions charged.

The Eastern States Company, Columbus, Ohio, which was organized late in 1923 for the purpose of assisting the county associations in making direct sales to the packers, reports that during 1925 over 65,000 hogs from 120 shipping points were sold to 22 packers, with the result that the producers received \$30,000 more than they would have otherwise.

NEW CONTRACTS SIGNED BY OHIO WOOL GROWERS

Over 4,500,000 pounds of wool of the 1925 clip was received by the Ohio Wool Growers' Cooperative Association, Columbus, Ohio, from 10,200 consignors. Of the total amount, 3,379,244 pounds came from Ohio, 406,853 pounds from Indiana, 342,210 pounds from Michigan, and 45,000 pounds from Pennsylvania.

This association began functioning in 1918 and since that year has marketed over 25,000,000 pounds of wool, as will be noted by the table below:

Year	Wool handled		Returns to	Net price
	Pounds	Index	growers	to grower
				(Cents per lb.)
1918	275,000	15	\$ 198,000	72
1919	1,750,000	100	1,178,500	67
1920	2,625,000	150	840,000	32
1921	6,750,000	386	1,947,000	29
1922	2,750,000	159	1,314,500	48
1923	3,744,000	214	1,933,000	52
1924/a	3,514,000	201	1,720,000	49
1925/b	4,555,852	260	-----	--

/a/ Handled wool for others than members as follows: Michigan, 217,245 lbs., \$97,466; Indiana, 250,035 lbs., \$151,538; Pennsylvania, 50,000 lbs., \$21,999.

/b/ Consignments as follows: Ohio, 3,379,244; Indiana, 406,853; Michigan, 342,210; Pennsylvania, 45,000.

Early in 1925 a campaign was started for signatures to a new marketing contract which embodies a service charge to the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. Field work was carried forward during February, March, and April with the result that 7,000 Ohio wool producers signed the new contract.

Educational work in behalf of cooperative principles was conducted in addition to the membership campaign. Over 300 barn meetings were held at which flock grading demonstrations were conducted.

Officers of the association visited the woolen mills in order to ascertain what might be done to increase the value of Ohio wools to the manufacturer.

Efforts in behalf of increased membership are to be made during the first five months of 1926. It is the desire of the management that the association handle the bulk of the wool produced in the state instead of the 30 per cent handled in 1925.

Further educational work is planned for the coming year. Attention is to be given to flock grading, feeding, breeding, and management problems. Furthermore it is proposed to carry the story of Ohio wools to the consumer.

FEDERAL TRADE'S REPORT ON COOPERATIVE TOBACCO MARKETING

Senate Document No. 34, 69th Congress, 1st session, contains information regarding the cooperative marketing of tobacco, especially in Virginia and the Carolinas. The document is a report by the Federal Trade Commission prepared in response to a resolution by the Senate requesting an investigation of alleged illegal and unfair practices on the part of the American Tobacco Company and the Imperial Tobacco Company.

The report indicates that the Commission did not find sufficient evidence to sustain the various charges made against the tobacco companies. However, the report states that the operating methods and merchandising policies of the Tri-State Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association were open to question, particularly with respect to redrying of tobacco when the demand appeared to be for green tobacco, and with respect to having the redrying done in plants in which certain officers and employees of the association were financially interested.

The operations of the tobacco trade are discussed at considerable length, especially as they relate to the tobacco association. Copies of the report may be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 20 cents a copy.

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OHIO TOBACCO GROWERS MUST DECIDE FUTURE COURSE

A vote is being taken by the management of the Miami Valley Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, Dayton, Ohio, as to whether this business enterprise shall be continued. The association was formed in 1923 and received for marketing the 1923 and 1924 crops of its members. Before making plans for handling the 1925 crop, the management insists upon being advised as to the number of members who propose to remain loyal and the quantity of tobacco which they may be expected to deliver. Nearly 20,000,000 pounds of the 1923 crop was delivered to the organization for marketing and about 5,000,000 pounds of the 1924 crop. The management reports that although the 1923 tobacco was of poor quality it has been sold and settlement made with growers. Sales are now being made of the 1924 tobacco.

Owing to dissatisfaction on the part of the membership, a reorganization of the management was made in the winter of 1924-25, a new manager and assistant manager being employed. A continuation of the dissatisfaction was followed by suits at law and finally by the dropping from the association of about 2,400 dissatisfied members.

In an open letter to the membership the president states that the association now (January, 1926) has 2,485 members producing about 5,000,000 pounds of tobacco, and that the cost of handling this quantity will be about 1.84 cents a pound. If a smaller quantity than 5,000,000 pounds were to be handled, the per pound cost would be higher. Meetings are being held in every township in seven counties of the producing area.



TRAIN LOAD OF SEED POTATOES FOR LOUISIANA FARMERS

Certified seed potatoes for Louisiana farmers will be shipped to that state by a special train early in this year. These potatoes have been ordered by the purchasing department of the Louisiana Farm Bureau for members in all parts of the state. Fifteen carloads have been concentrated at Kansas City and seventeen more cars will be brought in from Montana, Nebraska, and North Dakota, then the thirty-two cars will be sent in one solid train to Louisiana. By shipping a train load at one time the railroad officials state that it will be much easier to give the business special attention.

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OHIO PURCHASING ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Business handled during 1925 by the Ohio Farm Bureau Service Company, Columbus, showed an increase of approximately \$1,300,000 over 1924. The figures for the two years are: 1924, \$3,160,000; 1925, \$4,500,000. Dividends paid grower members on 1924 business were about \$55,000, and for 1925 these dividends amount to approximately \$150,000.

Among the 1925 purchases were: fertilizer, 48,827 tons, compared with 38,390 for 1924; feed, 17,680 tons in 1924, and 29,000 tons in 1925. Profits from fertilizer sales were approximately \$117,000 and from feed sales, \$33,000 making a total of \$150,000. Business was handled during the year through 150 elevators.

(See Agricultural Cooperation, February 2, 1925, p. 52.)

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COOPERATIVE PURCHASES BY MARYLAND CORPORATION OVER A MILLION

Cooperative purchases to the amount of \$1,171,985 were made by the Agricultural Corporation of Baltimore, Maryland, during 1925, compared with \$908,829 for 1924. Nearly one million dollars of the 1925 total was represented by feed purchases for farmers in 25 counties. The items making up the total figures for the two years are as follows:

	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
Foods .....	\$733,362	\$993,338
Fertilizers .....	121,765	147,437
Lime .....	2,093	1,296
Miscellaneous .....	51,609	29,914
	<u>908,829</u>	<u>1,171,985</u>

Refunds paid to the county cooperative associations during 1925 amounted to \$4,717.

On December 31 the corporation had a net worth of \$20,261, consisting of outstanding capital stock of \$16,380 and a surplus of \$3,881.



FRANKLIN CREAMERY CONDUCTING EDUCATIONAL CONTEST

A contest for readers of the Minneapolis Cooperator is being conducted by the educational committee of the Franklin Cooperative Creamery Association, Minneapolis. The purpose is to stimulate interest in cooperation. Five series of questions have been arranged, each series consisting of ten questions dealing with the history and development of the cooperative movement in this and other lands. As it was felt that the first two sets of questions were rather difficult for many of the readers, the third list was made to cover only the activities of the Franklin Cooperative Creamery Association. Prizes of \$5, \$3, and \$2 are offered for those turning in the largest number of correct answers to the 50 questions.

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OREGON STATE COLLEGE TO HOLD COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

A three-day school for directors and members of cooperative organizations is to be held at the Oregon Agricultural College, February 25, 26, and 27. The arrangements are in charge of C. J. Hurd, marketing specialist of the Oregon extension service. The general subject is the purposes and methods of cooperative marketing. The specific subjects will include: history of cooperative marketing in Europe and the United States, the economic basis of marketing, factors entering into price making, reasons for organizing marketing associations, the aims and purposes of cooperative marketing, and some things that cooperative marketing can not do. The duties and responsibilities of directors will also be discussed.

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MINNESOTA POULTRY EXCHANGE HOLDS MARKETING SCHOOLS

Several one-day marketing schools have been held in Minnesota by the Extension Specialist in Marketing in cooperation with the district associations of the Minnesota Cooperative Egg and Poultry Exchange, St. Paul. Assistance has also been given by the county agents. The schools are for the benefit of officers, directors and members of the poultry associations, and the subjects covered include: fundamentals of marketing, with discussion of principles of cooperation; market practice in handling eggs and poultry; demonstrations in handling eggs, also packed and live poultry; local problems, etc. Opportunities are given for questions and discussion. Attendance and interest are reported as very satisfactory.

ONE OF INDIA'S PIONEER COOPERATIVE STORES

A pioneer cooperative store in the Presidency of Madras, India, is the Triplicane Store which is described in the Madras Bulletin of Cooperation, November, 1925. This store was established April 9, 1904, in a humble cowshed in Triplicane, Madras. The original membership was 14 and the share capital was 310 rupees. (The par value of the rupee is 32.4 cents.) When the store opened for business it had two employees, one of whom was a salesman and the other an accountant, each drawing a monthly salary of 8 rupees. The society now has 4,200 members, a paid-up capital of 60,000 rupees, a reserve fund of 62,000 rupees, and a "common-good fund" of 27,000 rupees. More than 120 persons are employed at the 21 places of business, and the volume of business is between \$200,000 and \$300,000 a year. A library of 500 volumes is maintained and nearly every branch has a reading room for members.

As cooperative stores have been generally unsuccessful in India while the Triplicane Store has been a success, a study was made to determine the factors which contributed to the success. The factors which were considered most important in the initial success were, knowledge, faith, leadership, and propaganda. The founders believed that the first essential was that the people should be informed. After much talking and discussion the founders of the store planned two public lectures in the literary society of the neighborhood, one on the "History of the Rochdale Pioneers," and the other on "Some aspects of cooperation," explaining the principles and methods of the Rochdale Pioneers. As a result the Triplicane store was organized after the Rochdale plan. Each member paid a minimum share capital of five rupees, besides an entrance fee of four annas (Par value two cents) which was invariably added to the reserve fund. No member was permitted to hold more than 50 shares. The shares of capital might be paid for in small installments. At the end of the year the members were encouraged to convert their dividends on purchases into additional shares, and records of the society show that this has been done by a gradually increasing number of members.

Early in its history the store undertook to build up the knowledge and faith of its membership by supplying reading matter. "The Cooperative News" of Manchester was subscribed for and circulated among a number of members. Gradually other periodicals, books and pamphlets were added. The society itself published some pamphlets. Now nearly every branch maintains a reading room. Another move was to establish "The Cooperators' Day," apparently to celebrate the anniversaries of the founding of the society, but really to serve as a method of creating interest in cooperation.

Originally known as the "Triplicane Store" the organization has now become the "Triplicane Urban Cooperative Society."

KENTUCKY OPINION HOLDS TRANSFER OF LAND VOID

On November 10, 1925, the Court of Appeals of Kentucky decided the case of Coyle et al. v. Dark Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, 277 S. W. 313. It appeared that J. W. Coyle, on August 30, 1922, signed the marketing agreement of the association by which he agreed to deliver to it all the tobacco he raised or controlled, beginning with the year 1922. He delivered to the association the 1922 crop but was dissatisfied with the grading. On March 16, 1923,

in consideration of one dollar cash in hand paid, love and affection, and the further consideration that she assume the payment of certain indebtedness then owing by him, (he) conveyed the whole farm of 107 acres to his wife, Minnie M. Coyle. On August 1, 1923, J. W. Coyle and wife executed a deed to Delphus C. Coyle (their son) for a half interest in the land.... Delphus and his wife worked in the tobacco and so did J. W. Coyle. During the year Delphus moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, taking his family with him and going there to stay permanently. J. W. Coyle had the tobacco cut and cured. He delivered part of it to a free warehouse and sold it.

Thereupon the cooperative association brought suit against him and the other parties named and enjoined him from selling the rest of the tobacco.

The proof on the trial showed beyond doubt that Minnie M. Coyle and Delphus C. Coyle both knew of the contract made by J. W. Coyle with the cooperative association, and it leaves little doubt that the bond and the two deeds were executed by him for the purpose of avoiding his contract. Section 1906, Ky. St., provides: 'Every gift, conveyance, assignment or transfer of, or charge upon, any estate, real or personal, or right or thing in action, or any rent or profits thereof, made with the intent to delay, hinder, or defraud creditors, purchasers or other persons, and every bond, or other evidence of debt given, action commenced or judgment suffered, with like intent, shall be void, as against such creditors, purchasers and other persons. This section shall not affect the title of a purchaser for valuable consideration, unless it appear that he had notice of the fraudulent intent of the immediate grantor or of the fraud rendering void the title of such grantor.'

In view of the foregoing the court held that the transfers were void as to the association and said that "both Minnie M. Coyle and Delphus C. Coyle had notice of the fraudulent intent of J. W. Coyle



and, this being true, although they were purchasers for valuable consideration, their deeds are invalid as to the cooperative association."

The trial court rendered judgment in favor of the association "for 5 per cent damages on the amount of the tobacco sold" outside of the association, and held that the defendants should pay an attorney's fee of \$50 and the cost of executing a bond. The Appellate Court reversed the trial court with respect to these matters as to Minnie M. Coyle and Delphus C. Coyle, non-members of the association, because all of them were based upon the statute which made only members of the association liable with respect to them, but affirmed the judgment of the lower court as to J. W. Coyle.

Attention is called to the fact that many states have statutes declaring void conveyances or assignments made for the purpose of hindering or defrauding creditors, purchasers and other persons, and it would therefore seem that the courts of other states under like circumstances would reach similar conclusions.

L. S. Hulbert.

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#### COLORADO COURT SENDS CONTRACT VIOLATOR TO JAIL

The Cooperative Farmers' Exchange, Inc., brought suit against J. Arakana in the district court of Weld County, Colorado, and enjoined him from disposing of his products outside of the association. In violation of the preliminary injunction issued against him he sold some of the products in question to third persons and the exchange instituted proceedings against him for violating the injunction. He failed to give a bond which was required of him to insure his appearance for the purpose of showing cause why he should not be punished for contempt, and on this account was placed in the common jail of Weld County. He then obtained from the Supreme Court of the state a writ of habeas corpus directed to the sheriff of Weld County, calling upon him to show cause why he (Arakana) should not be released from jail.

The Supreme Court held that the writ had been improvidently issued and that the proceedings under which he had been placed in jail were regular. In passing upon the case the Supreme Court called attention to the fact that subsequent to the issuance of the writ of habeas corpus, the statute of the state under which the exchange was organized had been held valid by it in the case of Rifle Potato Growers' Association v. Smith, 240 p. 937. (See Agricultural Cooperation, November 9, 1925, p. 469.)

L. S. Hulbert.



BIG MEMBERSHIP IN COOPERATIVE MARKETING FEDERATIONS

Thirty-five federations made up of 1,907 local units engaged in the cooperative marketing of farm products had a total membership in excess of 210,000 at the close of 1925. Twenty-two federations with 850 units marketing fruits and vegetables reported 55,110 members, and seven federations with 846 units, engaged in the handling of dairy products, reported 112,625 members, according to a survey just completed. The largest federation reported 447 units with 73,000 members. It is located in Minnesota and is engaged in the merchandising of the butter produced in the creameries operated by the local units. The second largest federation was a Wisconsin dairy marketing association with 128 local units and 24,000 members.

The largest of the federations marketing fruits and vegetables was the California Fruit Growers' Exchange which handles oranges and lemons. Its 204 locals reported a total membership of approximately 12,000. A Michigan enterprise marketing white potatoes reported 72 local units and 7,800 members. A California federation handling deciduous fruits was credited with 129 units and 7,000 members and a federation in Florida selling citrus fruit reported 98 units and 6,000 members.

The 35 functioning federations from which reports were obtained, are located in 18 states. Five of the federations have headquarters in California, four in New York, three each in Michigan and Washington, and two each in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Florida, Oregon, Vermont and Ohio. The states with one federation reporting from each are Mississippi, Indiana, Colorado, West Virginia, Arkansas, Alabama, Illinois and Maine.

The two federations credited to Minnesota reported 464 units with 95,000 members; two federations reporting from Wisconsin had 333 units and 29,500 members; five federations in California, 426 units and 26,700 members; and three federations in Michigan, 179 units with 22,100 members.

Sixty-eight per cent of the total membership for all the organizations is in five federations with 833 units.

The federated form of cooperative marketing is over 300 years old. In 1595 after several years of effort by associations of orange growers, the Southern California Fruit Exchange was created to serve seven district associations. In 1905 the name of the organization was changed to the California Fruit Growers' Exchange, that the name might more nearly describe the territory being served.

It is estimated that the membership of the 2 federations functioned in 1900 was 1,300; of the 3 federations in 1905, 3,700; of the 6 in 1910, 9,400; of the 10 in 1915, 15,955; of the 19 in 1920, 61,550; and of the 35 in 1925, 210,325. Up to 1918 there had been only a slow steady growth in federation membership, but since that year the increase has been rapid.

EQUITY-UNION EXCHANGE MAKES COMPOSITE REPORT

A composite report of the business conducted by 124 local and centralized exchanges of the Equity-Union Exchange, Greenville, Ill., shows that during a twelve month period sales were \$38,965,709, while the total profits were \$805,215. The total capital of these enterprises amounted to \$2,691,417. Various types of business are conducted. Many of the locals handle grain and purchase supplies. Some handle livestock; a number are creamery organizations; and some are stores. Reports show a distribution over ten states. The largest volume of business was transacted by the Equity Grain Co., Kansas City, Mo., amounting to \$7,300,000; the Chicago Equity Union Exchange came second with \$1,537,363; next was the Ohio Central with \$1,145,454; then the exchange at Perryton, Texas, which had a business of \$1,012,164 in 7-1/2 months. Reports of some of the locals have already been published in this circular.

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NATIONAL COOPERATIVE COUNCIL HOLDS FOURTH MEETING

Seventy-seven representatives of 26 member associations of the National Council of Farmers' Cooperative Marketing Associations attended the Fourth National Cooperative Marketing Conference in Washington, January 12 to 15. A membership of about one-half million was represented by the delegates for the 26 associations. In addition there were representatives of a number of large-scale cooperative marketing associations not affiliated with the National Council.

At the business session of the council, Robert W. Bingham, Louisville, Ky., was elected to serve as chairman of the Council for the fourth consecutive year. The personnel of the executive committee remains much the same as during previous years. Four vacancies were left to provide representation for the wheat growers and the milk producers should they decide to affiliate with the National Council.

Resolutions were adopted (1) approving the administration's cooperative marketing bill; (2) providing for the creation of a special committee to consider the problems arising out of the market surplus of farm products; (3) asking that the Secretary of Agriculture consider suggested changes in wheat grades; and (4) that a committee of the National Council be appointed to cooperate with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in securing market analysis information and in making it available through the council.

The reports presented by the committees on field service, education and production credit were adopted.

NEW YORK STATE'S COOPERATIVES DEVELOPING RAPIDLY

One thousand fifty-six cooperative associations, of the 1,384 chartered in New York State from 1917 to 1925, transacted business in excess of \$92,000,000 for the crop year of 1924, according to a summary issued recently by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Farms and Markets. Three hundred twenty-eight associations of the number chartered were inactive or out of business in 1924. Activities of these 1,056 associations ranged from marketing more than thirty kinds of farm products to carrying on cooperative restaurants and building cooperative apartments. The farm products handled included fruits, honey, maple products, teasels, tobacco, vegetables, wool, and livestock.

The dairy industry accounts for a large share of the business. Consumers' organizations have also been active. One such group in New York City now operates four large cafeterias and a laundry.

The first cooperative law was enacted in New York in 1914, but very few associations were formed under it. At the beginning of 1918 there were but 17 active cooperatives listed by the Department of Farms and Markets. New legislation stimulated the movement and since that time more than 1,350 charters have been granted to groups to cooperate for nearly every purpose permitted under the law.

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EDITOR OF OKLAHOMA COTTON GROWER HONORED

A trophy consisting of a gold watch, offered to the paper among those entered in competition which should render the most meritorious service to the cooperative movement during 1925, was awarded to the editor of the Oklahoma Cotton Grower, at the Fourth National Cooperative Marketing Conference held in Washington, D. C., January 12 to 15, 1926.

The Oklahoma Cotton Grower is the official organ of the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' Association, Oklahoma City. It is a newspaper style publication, 4 to 6 pages, eight columns, and issued semi-monthly.

In the opinion of those making the award, the cause of cooperation has been furthered by the policy of giving to the membership of this large cooperative, timely, detailed, and rather complete information respecting those matters of greatest concern and thus providing the foundation for a satisfactory morale among the members.

Every issue carries to the members exact information regarding the business being handled in their behalf. Space is given to statements showing receipts of cotton and receipts from sales, also expenses in detail. At the close of each pooling season, elaborate statements are published showing the per bale cost of the different activities for the last year and for preceding years.

In addition to figures regarding bales, receipts and disbursements, a vast amount of information is published regarding other association matters in which the membership is vitally concerned. In this way the membership of the association is being interested in the big business in which they are partners.



### TROPHIES TO COOPERATIVE PUBLICITY MEN

Four trophies were awarded at the recent Cooperative Marketing Conference in Washington to editors of publications issued by cooperative marketing associations. The awards were made at the annual banquet of the National Co-op. Press Club, held January 14. Three of the trophies were engraved gold watches and the fourth a copy of the Encyclopedia Britannica.

The entries for the different prizes ranged in numbers from 25 to 75. Each group was passed upon by a separate group of judges. One watch was awarded to Fred Wilmarth, editor of the Oklahoma Cotton Grower, which paper was deemed "to have rendered the most meritorious service" to the cooperative movement during the past year. Four publications were included for honorable mention, two of the magazine type and two of the semi-newspaper type. The publications were: The Blue Anchor, F. W. Read, editor, California Fruit Exchange, Sacramento, Calif.; Nulaid News, R. H. McDrew, editor, Poultry Producers of Central California, San Francisco; Dairymen's League News, D. J. Carter, editor, Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, New York City; and Tri-State Tobacco Grower, S. D. Frissell, editor, Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, Raleigh, N. C.

The second trophy, for the best feature article entered, was awarded to R. H. McDrew, editor of Nulaid News, because of an article entitled "A drama on a poultry ranch." Honorable mention was given to the following articles: "Leviathan a League consumer," by D. J. Carter, editor Dairymen's League News; "What your co-op. can and can not do," by J. F. Walker, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation; "Selling cooperative eggs in New York City," by Earl W. Benjamin, General manager, Pacific Egg Producers; "Cooperative marketing or dumping and speculation," by J. W. Brinton, editor of Cooperation; "Cash and cooperation," by R. H. McDrew, editor of Nulaid News.

The third watch was awarded to Miss Rahno Mabel McCurdy for her booklet entitled "History of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange." Other publications in this class considered worthy of honors were as follows: "Tannahill did," Henry Holt, North Dakota Wheat Growers' Association; "Community Work in North Carolina," Susan Landon, North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association; "The wonderful dream that came true," Ole Hanson, Farmers' Equity Cooperative Creamery Association; "Progress of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association," O. M. Lowry; "The story of the year, 1923-24," D. J. Carter, Dairymen's League Cooperative Association.

The Encyclopedia Britannica was awarded to J. W. Cummins, editor Wheat Growers' Journal, Kansas Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association, for the best editorial submitted. Honorable mention was given the following editors: H. C. Booker, Cooperation, South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association; Vernice M. Aldrich, The Wheat Grower, North Dakota Wheat Growers' Association; Val Sherman, Colorado Wheat Grower; and D. J. Carter, Dairymen's League News.



SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

Black, John D., Buell A. Holt, and George M. Peterson. Economic aspects of local potato warehouse organization. St. Paul. Univ. of Minn. Agr. Exp. Sta. Technical Bul. 23. 1925. 75 pp. illus.

Problems of organization are considered, as distinguished from problems of operation and management. From a survey of 71 warehouses. Tables, charts and graphs illustrate the text.

Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange. Annual reports of general manager and treasurer, season of 1924-25. Cadillac, Mich. 18 pp. illus.

In addition to the annual reports the booklet includes a review of the proceedings of the seventh annual meeting of delegates, held August 19 and 20, 1925.

Terpenning, Walter A. Social organizations working with rural people. Kalama, Mo. Western State Normal School. 1925. 125 pp.

A study of two typical rural counties, with "a comprehensive investigation of the work of all the important social organizations working with actual farmers." A few pages are given to data regarding the cooperative organizations of the two counties.

Bridston, Mandus E. Washington egg co-op. succeeds. In Farm Journal, January, 1926, p. 50.

An illustrated article giving an account of this farmers' business enterprise and including an interview with its president.

Lindeman, E. C. The place of producers and consumers in a cooperative program. From the viewpoint of a social scientist. In Cooperation, January, 1926. pp. 6-9.

Miller, E. E. Members can get out of this cooperative. In Southern Agriculturist, January 15, 1926. p. 4.

A discussion of a provision in the new contract of the Staple Cotton Association permitting members to withdraw on a specified date each year.

Sands, Oliver J. The problems of financing the cooperatives. In Banker-Farmer, December, 1925, p. 6.

A discussion of possible and approved methods of procedure.

Scott, A. J. History of the North Dakota pool. In The Wheat Grower, January 1, 1926, p. 7.

The story of the growth of the wheat pool in North Dakota.

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Copies of the index to Volume III (1925) of Agricultural Cooperation are ready for distribution and will be sent upon request to those maintaining a file of this circular. Requests should be made promptly as the supply may soon be exhausted.

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